

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

714/744 P STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

February 25, 1983

To: All County Welfare Directors

Letter No. 83-19

IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (IHSS) MEDI-CAL ELIGIBILITY FUNDING

Over the past years, the Department of Health Services (DHS) and Department of Social Services (DSS) have sent county welfare departments numerous letters providing information on, and instructions for, the IHSS program. The purpose of this letter is to clarify IHSS Medi-Cal funding for those county welfare departments that have requested further explanation of the IHSS eligibility determination process.

There is nominal administrative activity necessary to provide IHSS clients with Medi-Cal benefits. Simply, once IHSS eligibility and share of cost have been determined, the recipient is automatically Medi-Cal eligible. Subsequently, one document is processed to generate a Medi-Cal card.

DHS does not require a Medi-Cal application for the IHSS Income Eligible recipient, nor the establishment of a separate Medi-Cal case file. DHS has stated that these activities will not be funded by the Medi-Cal program. Consequently, if a county chooses to open a separate Medi-Cal case file on an IHSS Income Eligible recipient, the county must identify all related caseworker time to the Other County Only Program (OCOP).

Caseworker activities relative to the IHSS Program; i.e., determining eligibility, assessing and arranging for the provision of IHSS, and computing the recipient's share of cost, are to be performed by Social Workers and reported on the DFA 46, Social Workers Time Study, Staff Activities/Service Arrangement line. In addition, Social Worker time spent processing the document required to generate a Medi-Cal card for IHSS Income Eligible recipients may be identified to this line.

These administrative activities are funded by the Other County Social Services (OCSS) allocation provided by the DSS.

Questions regarding administrative claiming of the IHSS program should be directed to DSS, Fiscal Policy and Procedures Bureau (916) 445-7046.

Sincerely,

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Loren D. Syler, Chief
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